

# News - AAA - Notes

NORTH DAKOTA STATE PMA OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
PRODUCTION AND MARKETING ADMINISTRATION

FARGO, NORTH DAKOTA

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March 3, 1949

The Department of Agriculture, in a step to assure a more stable meat supply next fall and winter, has announced that hog prices will be supported at 90 percent of parity through March 1950, when the marketing season for 1949 spring pigs ends.

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The total number of cattle, both beef and dairy animals, on hand on January 1, 1949 was 78,495,000 head, about the same as a year ago, and over 2 million more than the ten-year average from 1938 to 1947, the AAA reports.

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A 5-man "State" PMA farmer-committee, the first one outside of continental United States, was installed in Puerto Rico on February 22, 1949.

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Many farmers have found farming to be easier, and more economical where land is laid out on the contour, the AAA emphasizes.

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"The know-how of food production developed in the United States needs to be met with marketing research which will bring forth new uses for farm products and more economical and efficient distribution..." Secretary of Agriculture, Charles F. Brannan.

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The 1948 potato yield for the United States was 212 bushels, the highest on record since 1880, however, harvested acreage in 1948 was the smallest since 1880, the AAA reports.

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The national goal for corn in 1949 is 86 million planted acres, approximately the same as the 1948 acreage, but 6 percent less than the 1937-41 average, the AAA announces.

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One of the first steps in soil and water conservation is to get the "curative" type of conservation practices into use to check soil and water erosion, the AAA emphasizes.

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March 10, 1949

Wool production in the U.S. in 1948, both shorn and pulled, is estimated to be 280,524,000 pounds, the smallest production since 1923, the Bureau of Agricultural Economics reports.

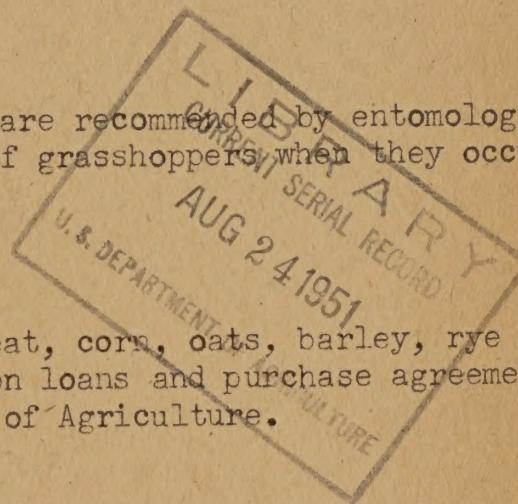
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A program to expedite agricultural reconstruction in Western Germany by enabling German farm leaders to study United States methods of agricultural education has been announced by the U. S. Department of Agriculture through the Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations.

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Two new insecticides, chlordane and toxaphene, are recommended by entomologists of the Department of Agriculture for the control of grasshoppers when they occur in outbreak proportions, the AAA announces.

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A total of 613,614,642 bushels of 1948 crop wheat, corn, oats, barley, rye and grain sorghums were under Commodity Credit Corporation loans and purchase agreements as of January 31, 1949, reports the U. S. Department of Agriculture.

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Conservation of soil and water means using these resources in such a way as to give the greatest return in continued food and fiber production, the AAA emphasizes.

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The Federal Crop Insurance Corporation in 1948, for the second consecutive year, operated at a profit. Premiums ran about  $12\frac{1}{2}$  million dollars, and indemnities about  $7\frac{1}{2}$  million dollars.

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"We must make sure that our long-range price-support legislation moves toward the goal of farm living standards comparable to those of the rest of the population...." President Harry S. Truman.

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Assistance under the Agricultural Conservation Program is provided only for conservation practices which have been approved by farmer committeemen and soil and crop specialists, and when completed the practices must meet definite conservation specifications.

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March 17, 1949

Sales of chickens from farms in 1948 amounted to 1,770 million pounds live weight compared with 2,154 million pounds in 1947, the Bureau of Agricultural Economics reports.

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"For the long pull, we shall need prosperity based squarely upon balance--balance between farm prices and city prices, balance between wages and profits, balance, in short, between purchasing power and production..." Secretary of Agriculture, Charles F. Brannan.

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Up to March 31 ear corn eligible for a loan can have a maximum moisture content of  $20\frac{1}{2}$  percent, during April this maximum drops to  $17\frac{1}{2}$  percent, and in May it drops down farther to  $15\frac{1}{2}$  percent where it stays until the June 30 deadline, the AAA announces.

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Farmers will probably receive 2 billion dollars from the sale of their products in March or about the same as in February and 8 percent above March 1948, the Bureau of Agricultural Economics announces.

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Marketing studies by the Poultry Branch of the Production and Marketing Administration, U. S. Department of Agriculture indicate that 4 out of 10 eggs marketed at country receiving stations are below top quality, the AAA emphasizes.

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As a means of conserving soil and water and at the same time furnishing an abundance of spring and fall forage, crested wheatgrass is outstanding in areas of limited rainfall, the AAA reports.

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The limit of financial assistance to any one farmer under the 1949 Agricultural Conservation Program is \$750 as compared with \$500 under the 1948 program.

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The 1949 spring pig goal calls for a spring pig crop of 60 million pigs, 17 percent more than the 1948 crop, the AAA announces.

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March 24, 1949

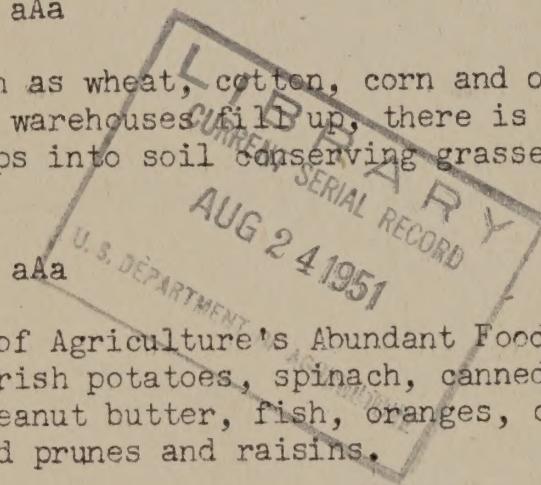
The price of 1949 crop grain sorghums will be supported by loans and purchase agreements at 70 percent of parity, the U. S. Department of Agriculture has announced.

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If the total bill for conservation work carried out under the 1948 Agricultural Conservation Program was evenly divided among all people in the United States it would amount to about one dollar per person.

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As the market demand for cash crops such as wheat, cotton, corn and other feed grains slackens, and as bins, cribs and warehouses fill up, there is increasing need to put land taken out of these crops into soil conserving grasses and clovers, the AAA emphasizes.



Foods included on the U. S. Department of Agriculture's Abundant Food List for April are: Carrots, onions, cabbage, Irish potatoes, spinach, canned corn, eggs, dairy products, dried beans and peas, peanut butter, fish, oranges, canned citrus juices and grapefruit sections and dried prunes and raisins.

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Each year soil losses in the United States exceed gains made in conservation of soil and water resources, the AAA emphasizes.

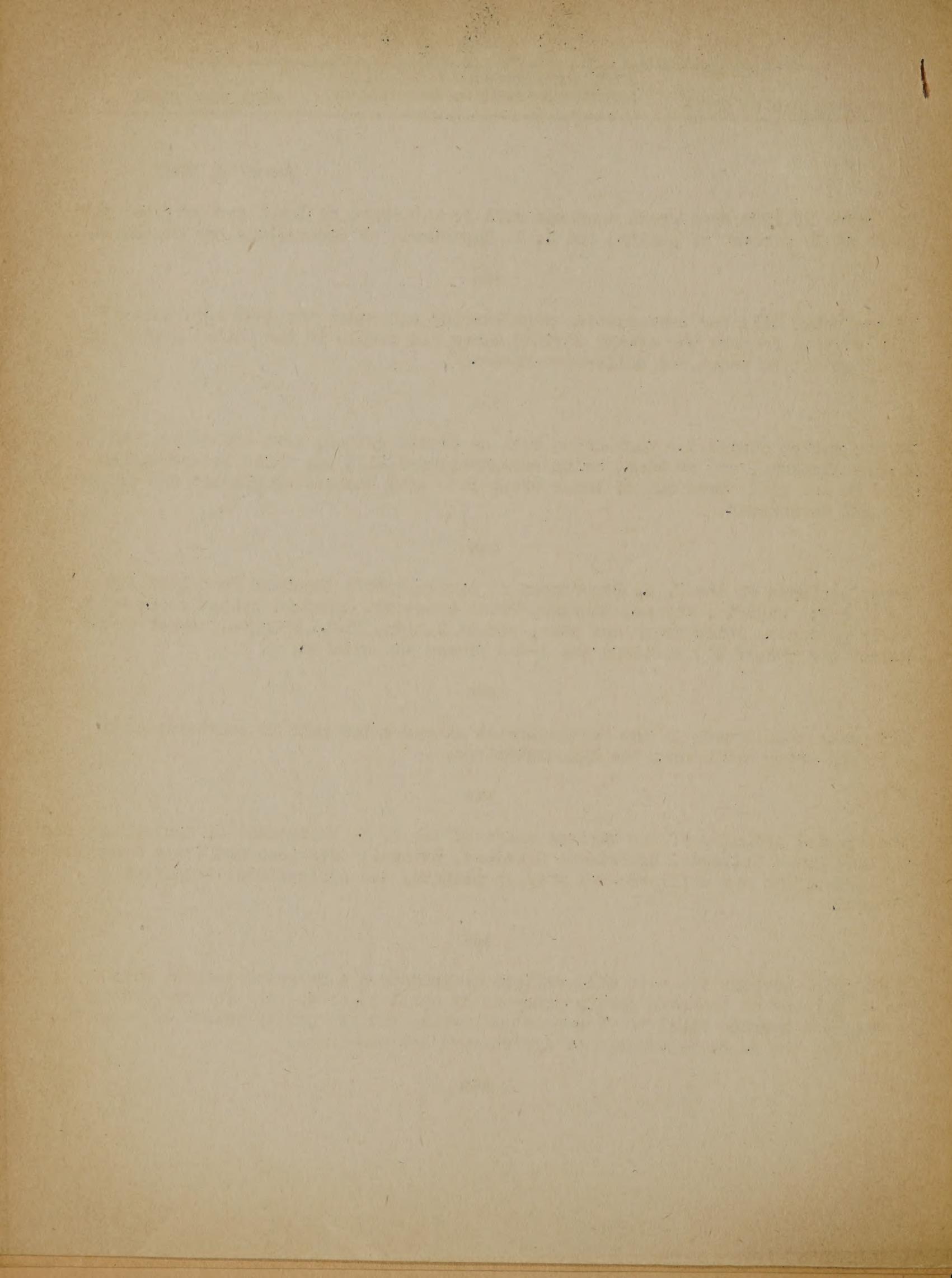
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The special training of the various units of the U. S. Department of Agriculture such as Land Grant Colleges, Experiment Stations, Extension Services and State Departments of Agriculture are utilized each year in planning the Agricultural Conservation Program.

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1949 price support for oats will reflect to producers a weighted average rate equal to 70 percent of the oats parity price as of April 15, 1949, and for rye and barley a weighted average equal to 72 percent of barley and rye parity prices as of April 15, 1949, the U. S. Department of Agriculture has announced.

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March 31, 1949

Indications are that the official 1949 acreage goals set for breadgrains, particularly wheat, will not be fully met in many European countries, according to latest information available to the Department of Agriculture.

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Government price supports on the 1949 crop of flaxseed will be at 90 percent of the April 1, 1949 parity price, Minneapolis basis, according to a recent announcement by the Department of Agriculture.

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More than 457 million bushels of U. S. grain and grain products were exported in the 8-month period July 1948 through February 1949, reports the Department of Agriculture.

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1949 wheat prices will be supported at 90 percent of parity as of July 1, 1949 through farm storage, warehouse storage loans and purchase agreements, the AAA announces.

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1948 turkey production was 8 percent below 1947 and 14 percent below the 1942-46 average, the Bureau of Agricultural Economics reports.

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The farmer's share of the consumers' food dollar reached its lowest average annual level of 32 cents in 1932 and 1933, and attained the highest annual level of 54 cents in 1945, the AAA reports.

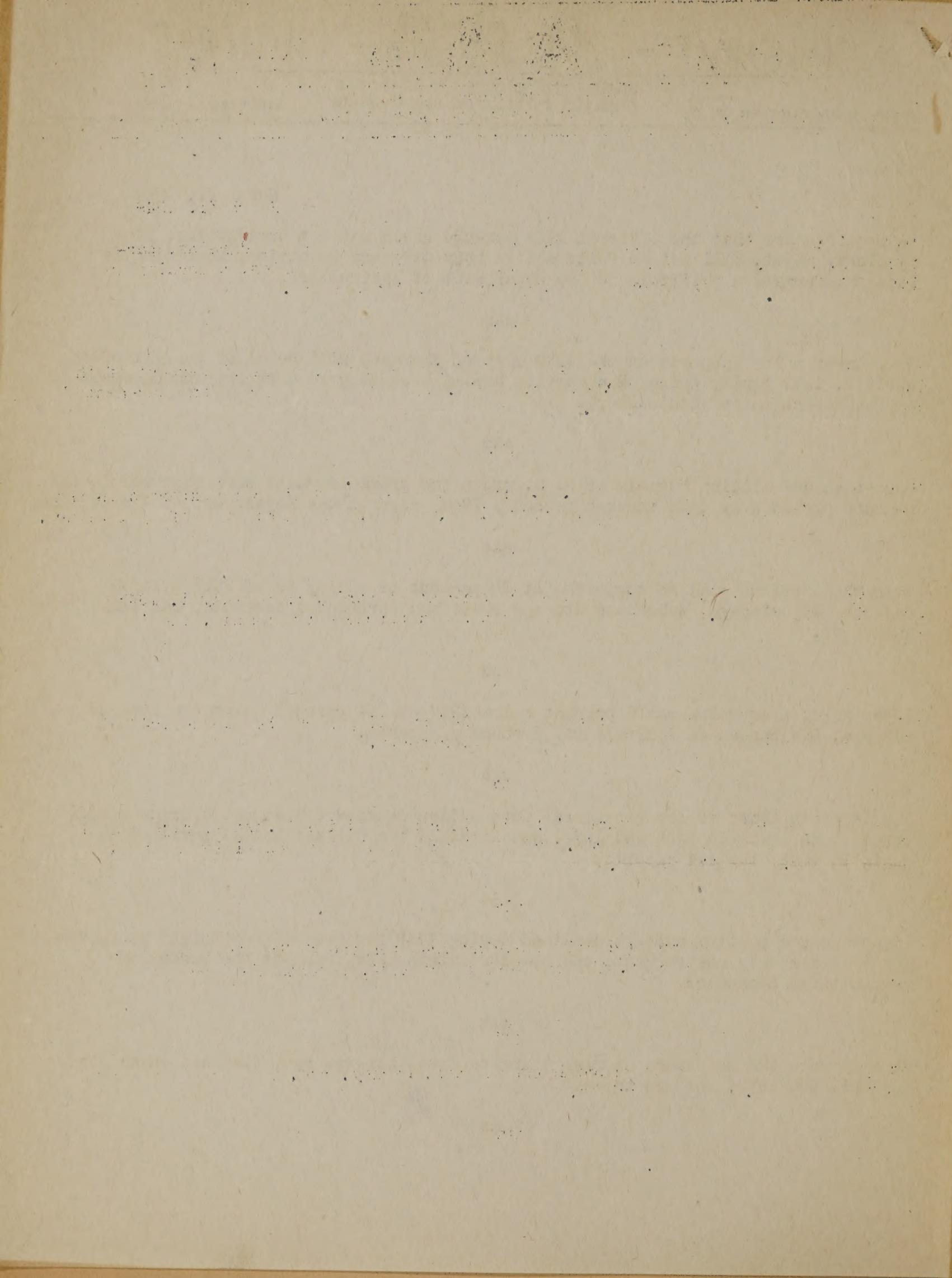
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Livestock and poultry numbers declined during 1948 for the fifth straight year, but the drop was only one percent, the smallest since 1944, reports the Bureau of Agricultural Economics.

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Farm storage and warehouse storage loans on oats, barley, rye, flax and wheat mature on April 30, 1949, the AAA advises.

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April 14, 1949

Price support for 1949-crop dry edible beans, at 80 percent of the parity price as of September 1, 1949, will be carried out through loans and purchase agreements available to producers, the Department of Agriculture announces.

Grass seed production can be increased by the application of nitrogen-bearing fertilizers, the AAA points out.

Farm cost rates, for the most part, will continue high again in 1949, however, a few cost rates, notably feed, will be lower in 1949 than in 1948, the Bureau of Agricultural Economics reports.

Price supports on agricultural commodities serve two vital purposes - first, they help to assure the consumer plenty of food; second, they help prevent ruinous prices to farmers for what they raise.

Feed grain supplies for 1949-50 will be moderately smaller than the record large supply for 1948-49, if yields are about average, the Bureau of Agricultural Economics reports.

If final 1949 farm goals set by the Department of Agriculture are realized, 1949 wheat production will be down 8 percent from that of 1948, while barley production will go up 2 percent.

U. S. farmers had placed more than 211 million bushels of 1948-crop corn under loan or purchase agreement as of February 28, 1949, the AAA reports.

Before the school year is over in the U. S. more than \$200 million worth of food will be consumed in school lunchrooms under the School Lunch Program, the AAA reports.

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April 21, 1949

The Production and Marketing Administration, U. S. Department of Agriculture, estimates that 526,966,000 bushels of United States grain and grain products were exported in the nine months period, July 1948 through March 1949.

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The severe 1948-49 winter in the West promises to pay off with widespread irrigation and other water benefits in most Western States, the Department of Agriculture reported on the basis of its final April snow surveys.

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The support level for 1949 crop soybeans grading U.S. No. 2 and containing not more than 14 percent moisture will be 90 percent of the comparable prices for all soybeans on September 1, 1949, the U. S. Department of Agriculture announces.

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Farm wage rates weakened between January 1 and April 1, when normally they strengthen, the AAA reports.

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Poultrymen took in \$2.8 billion dollars from the sale of eggs and chickens in 1948, reports the Department of Agriculture.

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Both acreage and yields of breadgrains in many European countries may be less than a year ago, according to latest information available to the U. S. Department of Agriculture.

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Loans approved by the REA during the week of April 4-8 will result in central station electric service being taken to approximately 7,000 rural homes.

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It is estimated by the Bureau of Agricultural Economics that 23 percent more cattle were on feed for market on April 1, 1949 in the 11 Corn Belt States than in the preceding year.

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April 28, 1949

During the 4 months ended March 1949 the index of farm real estate values turned downward for the first time in 10 years, the Bureau of Agricultural Economics announces.

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Egg production is a sideline on most of the 5 million U.S. farms where layers are kept, but the small amount of surplus eggs produced on these farms supply an urban population of about 90 million people, the AAA reports.

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The AAA emphasizes that the present farm program is essentially a means to balance production and to add to the national food security by seeding the land taken out of surplus crops to soil conserving grasses and legumes.

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Assistance for practices approved under the Agricultural Conservation Program is generally about 50 percent of the out-of-pocket cost of the individual practice.

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The total number of livestock and poultry is now 18 percent below the 1944 peak, but is still 3 percent higher than the 1935-39 average, the Bureau of Agricultural Economics reports.

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2,695 acres of trees were planted under the 1947 Agricultural Conservation Program in North Dakota.

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In the 10-year period, 1921 through 1930, the average U. S. oats yield was 29.5 bushels per acre, in 1948 the yield was up to 37.1 bushels, or more than a 25 percent increase, the AAA reports.

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Production and Marketing Administration committeemen from 14 of the main wheat growing states met recently with Grain Branch officials to discuss problems concerned with the possible establishment of wheat acreage allotments and marketing quotas in 1950.

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